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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Committee on Commodities
Working Party on Diversification, Processing,
Marketing and Distribution, including Transportation
Third session
Geneva, 5 November 1990
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. The improvement of information flows to aid investment decisions

4. Adequate financial resources for diversification

5. Other business

6. Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Committee on Commodities

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Election of officers

The Working Party may wish to elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur. It is recalled that at its second session the Working Party re-elected Mr. Gulrez YAZDANI (Pakistan) as Chairman and elected Mr. Wolf MUELLER (Australia) as Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Committee on Commodities, in section 3.1 of its agreed conclusion 25 (XXIII),[1/] decided that the Working Party should consider five items, three of which were dealt with at its second session. At that session the Working Party agreed that at its third session it should consider the other two items, set out herein as items 3 and 4, and should finalize the conclusions for transmission to the Committee.

The Working Party will have five working days available to it. With regard to the organization of work, the Working Party may wish to decide, as it did at its first and second sessions, that detailed discussion on the two substantive items should be conducted in an informal setting.

Item 3 The improvement of information flows to aid investment decisions

To assist the Working Party in its consideration of this item, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a report entitled "Information flows to aid investment decisions" (TD/B/C.1/AC/11). This report identifies the main areas in which information is required for deciding to invest in diversification, including the processing, marketing and distribution of commodities. It also reviews the various types of information available and the extent to which it is accessible, and makes suggestions for improvements.

Item 4 Adequate financial resources for diversification

For its consideration of this item, the Working Party will have before it a report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat entitled "Financial resources for diversification projects and programmes" (TD/B/C.1/AC/12). This report includes a discussion of the types of finance available for diversification and, on the basis of replies to the note verbale sent to all governments and information provided by international and regional financial institutions, it reviews the finance made available and assesses its adequacy.

Item 6 Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Committee on Commodities

In section 3.1 of agreed conclusion 25 (XIII) of the Committee on Commodities, it is stated that the Committee shall take appropriate action on the reports of the Working Party. The fourteenth session of the Committee on Commodities is scheduled to take place from 12 to 20 November 1990, immediately following the third session of the Working Party.

1/ TD/B/1201/ - TD/B/C.1/304, annex I.